

To: Laidlaw, Tina[Laidlaw.Tina@epa.gov]
From: Mumford, David
Sent: Fri 5/10/2013 2:30:14 PM
Subject: NWG
MLCT Memo on NNS 2.doc

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Good morning Tina

Attached is a memo I sent to the MLCT members and George proposing an option to provide communities with some certainty on what their discharge requirements will be. George said his staff likes it. Please let me know your thoughts. I would like to visit with you before the May 20th meeting.

David D. Mumford, P.E.

Public Works Director

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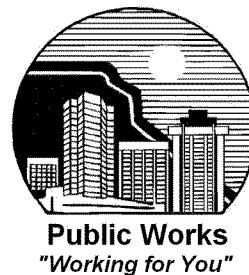
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MEMORANDUM

To: MLCT

Thru:

From: David Mumford, P.E., Director, Public Works Department

Date: April 29, 2013

SUBJECT: Numeric Nutrient Standards Alternative

Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has scheduled the next NWG meeting for May 20th. All indications are that MDEQ will propose the majority of the NWG concerns have been addressed and that they will be proceeding to Rules Committee with the draft Numeric Nutrient Standards this summer. I am concerned with providing full support for the draft Standards as written without clarification of our concerns. The proposed in-stream standards of TN 0.3 mg/L and TP 0.03 mg/L cannot be achieved with technologies available today and in the foreseeable future. Current wastewater treatment technologies using a combination of MBR and RO treatment facility cannot treat wastewater below TN 1 mg/L and TP 0.05 mg/L. I am suggesting we propose the following Interim Draft Numeric Nutrient Rules. The concept is that MDEQ will proceed with the full draft Numeric Nutrient Rules, with the interim rules included.

Interim Draft Rules

- Mechanical point source dischargers would meet the following nutrient discharge values as they are issued MPDES Permits after adoption of Rules:
 - MPDES Permit #1: TN 8 mg/L TP 0.7 mg/L
 - MPDES Permit #2: TN 6 mg/L TP 0.1 mg/L
 - MPDES Permit #3: TN 4 mg/L TP 0.05 mg /L
- Dischargers would be required to monitor in stream water quality above and below the discharger's outfall. Monitoring would include but not limited to Ph., Dissolved

Oxygen, Nitrogen, Phosphorous, and algae.

- Dischargers will be required by MPDES Permit # 2 to develop a phosphorous recovery program.

The proposed interim standards can provide the following benefits to both dischargers, MDEQ, and EPA:

- Mechanical dischargers would have defined requirements for their permits that will significantly improve wastewater discharge in Montana.
- There would be no variance process for mechanical dischargers during this period.
- Provide MLCT support for adoption of long term in stream nutrient standards of TN 0.3 mg/L and TP 0.03 mg/L.
- Will require dischargers to significantly improve nitrogen and phosphorous discharge into receiving waters.
- Provide time to implement and begin using Trading Policy.
- Develop in stream data on water quality of receiving water.
- Provide time for MDEQ and dischargers to develop strategies for addressing lagoons and non-point source water quality.
- Allows time for all TMDL's to be completed.

With the adoption of the interim standards for mechanical dischargers, I would support recommending approval of the draft Numeric Nutrient Standards.